

Message Text

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12

ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

AID-20 NEA-10 AF-10 IO-12 EUR-25 EB-11 COME-00 INT-08

SCEM-02 TRSE-00 OMB-01 RSR-01 /182 W

----- 044875

R 252150 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 006

INFO USCINCSO FOR POLAD

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR ENRG US VE

SUBJECT: REPORTED REMARKS OF SENATOR FULBRIGHT ON MIDDLE EAST
SEEN BY SOME AS APPLYING TO VENEZUELA; CALLED ABSURD
BY CALDERA

1. ASKED AT HIS MAY 24 PRESS CONFERENCE ABOUT REMARKS ATTRIBUTED TO SENATOR FULBRIGHT, TO EFFECT THAT US COULD DECIDE TO TAKE MILITARY ACTION IN MIDDLE EAST TO ASSURE OIL SUPPLIES, AND WHETHER SUCH REMARKS COULD NOT ALSO APPLY TO VENEZUELA BECAUSE OF REFUSAL OF GOV TO "HAND OVER" ORINOCO TAR BELT, PRESIDENT CALDERA SAID THAT HE HAD READ WIRE SERVICE ACCOUNTS OF THE SENATOR'S STATEMENT, BUT THAT HE ALSO UNDERSTOOD THAT USG IN NO WAY SUPPORTS HIS WORDS OR PROPOSAL. PRESIDENT CONTINUED THAT IT IS LAMENTABLE THAT "DISTINGUISHED PERSONS OF A COUNTRY SO IMPORTANT AS THE US SHOULD SPEAK, IN A GIVEN MOMENT, IN SUCH AN ABSURD MANNER. I BELIEVE, ON ONE HAND, THAT WITHIN THE US ITSELF THERE MUST BE TOTAL DISAGREEMENT WITH THIS POSITION, AND, ON THE OTHER, THAT WE ARE AWARE THAT THOSE THINGS CANNOT HAPPEN."

2. IN RELATED DEVELOPMENT URD SENATOR AND CAMPAIGN DIRECTOR
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LEONARDO MONTIAL ORTEGA IS REPORTED TO HAVE SAID AT PRESS
CONFERENCE IN MARACAIBO THAT " THE SUPERDEVELOPED POWERS,
AND ESPECIALLY THE US, WILL ATTEMPT A DIRECT INTERVENTION
IN VENEZUELA IF THE BIPARTISAN SCHEME OF ACCION DEMOCRATICA
AND COPEI FAILS." WHEN EMBASSY OFFICER REMONSTRATED WITH
MONTIEL FOR ENGAGING IN SUCH DEMAGOGUERY, MONTIEL RATHER
LAMELY POINTED TO SENATOR FULBRIGHT' S ALLEGED REMARKS AS PART
OF HIS " EVIDENCE" OF US INTENTIONS. EMBASSY OFFICER REPLIED
THAT WHATEVER SENATOR SAID (NOTING THAT WE DO NOT HAVE FULL
TEXT OF HIS REMARKS) HE OBVIOUSLY DOES NOT SPEAK FOR
EXECUTIVE BRANCH OF USG.
DEVINE

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NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 MAY 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
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EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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